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09/012,144

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EXAMINER

NGUYEN, LUONG TRUNG

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PAPER

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

The time period for reply, if any, is set in the attached communication.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 09/012,144	Applicant(s) NAPOLI ET AL.	
	Examiner LUONG T. NGUYEN	Art Unit 2622	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 September 2008.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,8-9,13 and 15-18 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 9 and 17 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-5,8,13,15-16,18 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

1. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on 9/17/2008 has been entered.

Response to Arguments

2. Applicant's arguments filed 9/17/2008 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive.

In re pages 6-7, Applicants argue that in Kawamura the LCD display is using up valuable energy while the image is being processed, instead of waiting until after the image captured and ready for being displayed as claimed in the present invention. Kawamura et al. also fails to discuss battery saving technique in this area.

In response, it should be noted that the feature "battery saving technique" is not recited in claims.

Regarding claim 1, the Applicants recite limitation “said quick view feature including a control section for automatically powering up the image display after the image is captured by the sensor in order to display the captured image, and then automatically turning off the image display after the period has elapsed;” and

regarding claim 5, the Applicants amended claim 5 with limitation “the image display controller automatically powers up the image display for a predetermined period after the image is captured by the sensor in order to display the captured image stored in the first buffer memory, and then automatically turns off the image display after the predetermined period has elapsed;”

regarding claim 13, the Applicants recite limitation “selectively enabling a quick view feature in which the image display is automatically turned on in response to actuation of the shutter button for a period of time after the image is captured in order to display the captured image stored in the first buffer memory, and then automatically turned off after the period has elapsed.”

The Examiner considers that claim 1 and 13 as claimed, and claim 5 as amended still do not distinguish from Kawamura et al. in view of Nagano. Kawamura et al. teaches a LCD display mode in an electronic camera, in which the power supply for the display portion 4 is turned on by half pressing the release button 12 (figures 1A, 2, column 12, lines 3-13), which reads on limitation “*a control section for automatically powering up the image display after the image is captured by the sensor in order to display the captured image.*” Kawamura et al. only fails to specifically disclose *automatically turning off the image display after the period has elapsed*. However, Nagano discloses this feature. Nagano discloses an electronic camera, which

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includes an electronic view finder 5 that displays image captured by the image sensor 4, and control circuit 26 that causes automatic interval shooting for a number of pictures and at intervals of a given period of time; and to suspend a driving action on the image sensor 4 and to turn off the electronic view finder 5, except when shooting and recording are performed, after commencement of an interval shooting operation with the camera having been set in an interval shooting mode (figure 6, column 8, lines 19-28).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

3. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

4. Claims 1-5, 8, 13, 15-16, 18 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Kawamura et al. (US 7,092,024) in view of Nagano (US 5,561,462).

Regarding claim 1, Kawamura et al. discloses an electronic camera for capturing and displaying one or more images, said camera comprising:

an optical viewfinder (optical finder 14, figure 5, column 6, lines 45-54) for composing an image prior to image capture;

a sensor (imaging portion 1, figures 2, 5, column 3, lines 3-24; column 6, lines 29-53) for capturing the composed image;

an actuable shutter button (release button 12, figure 5, column 6, lines 29-53) effective when actuating for permitting the sensor to capture the image;

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an electronic image display (display portion 4, figures 2, 5, column 3, lines 3-24; column 6, lines 29-67) for displaying the captured image;

a quick view feature in which the image display is automatically turned on in response to actuation of the shutter button, without user intervention, for a period of time after an image is captured, said quick view feature including a control section for automatically powering up the image display after the image is captured by the sensor in order to display the captured image (Kawamura et al. teaches a LCD display mode in an electronic camera, in which the power supply for the display portion 4 is turned on by half pressing the release button 12 (figures 1A, 2, column 12, lines 3-13)).

Kawamura et al. fails to specifically disclose automatically turning off the image display after the period has elapsed. However, Nagano discloses an electronic camera, which includes an electronic view finder 5 that displays image captured by the image sensor 4, and control circuit 26 that causes automatic interval shooting for a number of pictures and at intervals of a given period of time; and to suspend a driving action on the image sensor 4 and to turn off the electronic view finder 5, except when shooting and recording are performed, after commencement of an interval shooting operation with the camera having been set in an interval shooting mode (figure 6, column 8, lines 19-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Kawamura et al. by the teaching of Nagano in order to automatically turn off the display of a camera after a period of time. This reduces power consumption of the camera.

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Regarding claim 2, Kawamura et al. discloses a memory section (memory portion 6, figure 2, column 3, lines 3-23) for storing the captured image.

Regarding claim 3, Kawamura et al. discloses a buffer memory (buffer, column 3, lines 3-23) for storing the captured image in order that it may be quickly displayed by the image display during an initial review and an output memory (memory portion 6, column 3, lines 3-23) for storing the captured image after it has been judged to be acceptable during the initial review.

Regarding claim 4, Kawamura et al. discloses a processing section (control portion 5, figures 2, 5, column 3, lines 3-34) for operating on the captured image in order to store the captured image in the output memory and a user interface (detecting portion 2, figure 5, column 6, lines 33-53) provides an erase command to the processing section to erase the captured image (CLEAR button 27 is used to erase the recorded data, figure 5, column 8, lines 10-24).

Regarding claim 5, Kawamura et al. discloses an electronic camera for capturing and displaying one or more images, said camera comprising:

- an optical viewfinder (optical finder 14, figure 5, column 6, lines 45-54) for composing an image prior to image capture;

- a sensor (imaging portion 1, figures 2, 5, column 3, lines 3-24; column 6, lines 29-53) for capturing an image;

- a first buffer memory (buffer, column 3, lines 3-23) for storing the captured image;

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an electronic image display (display portion 4, figures 2, 5, column 3, lines 3-24; column 6, lines 29-67) for displaying the captured image stored in the first buffer memory;

a processing section (control portion 5, figures 2, 5, column 3, lines 3-34) for performing image processing on the captured image over a period of time and generating a processed image file therefrom, said processing section further responsive to an erase command in order to erase the captured image (CLEAR button 27 is used to erase the recorded data, figure 5, column 6, line 54 – column 7, line 33; column 8, lines 10-20);

a second memory (memory portion 6, figure 2, column 3, lines 3-23) for storing the processed image file;

a user interface (detecting portion 2, figure 5, column 6, lines 33-53) for selectively enabling a quick view feature in which the image display is automatically turned on after an image is captured (Kawamura et al. teaches a LCD display mode in an electronic camera, in which the power supply for the display portion 4 is turned on by half pressing the release button 12 (figures 1A, 2, column 12, lines 3-13), the user interface including an actuatable shutter button (release button 12, figure 5, column 6, lines 29-53) effective when actuating for permitting the image sensor to capture image;

an image display controller responsive to actuation of the shutter button for automatically powering up the image display after the image is captured in order to display the captured image stored in the first buffer memory (Kawamura et al. teaches a LCD display mode in an electronic camera, in which the power supply for the display portion 4 is turned on by half pressing the release button 12; figures 1A, 2, column 12, lines 3-13);

said user interface further providing the erase command to the processing section, which thereupon erases the captured image (CLEAR button 27 is used to erase the recorded data, figure 5, column 8, lines 10-24);

the image display controller automatically powers up the image display for a predetermined period after the image is captured by the sensor in order to display the captured image stored in the first buffer memory (figures 1A, 2, column 12, lines 3-13).

Kawamura et al. fails to specifically disclose automatically turns off the image display after the predetermined period has elapsed. However, Nagano discloses an electronic camera, which includes an electronic view finder 5 that displays image captured by the image sensor 4, and control circuit 26 that causes automatic interval shooting for a number of pictures and at intervals of a given period of time; and to suspend a driving action on the image sensor 4 and to turn off the electronic view finder 5, except when shooting and recording are performed, after commencement of an interval shooting operation with the camera having been set in an interval shooting mode (figure 6, column 8, lines 19-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Kawamura et al. by the teaching of Nagano in order to automatically turn off the display of a camera after a period of time. This reduces power consumption of the camera.

Regarding claim 8, Kawamura et al. discloses wherein the processing section responds to the erase command by terminating the processing and deleting the partially completed image file from the second memory (Kawamura et al discloses the CLEAR button 27 is used to erase the recorded data, figure 5, column 6, line 54 – column 7, line 33; column 8, lines 10-20; and

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Kawamura et al. discloses that if the CLEAR button 27 is pressed while the release button 12 is pressed (i.e., not fully pressed, the photographed image data are not recorded in the memory portion 6, the image processing is not completed), the image data or the pen put image data is deleted, i.e., the image data file is deleted before the processed image file is recording in memory portion 6; figures 2, 5, column 8, lines 10-25).

Regarding claim 13, Kawamura et al. discloses a method for capturing and displaying an image with an electronic camera, said method comprising the steps of:

capturing the image in response to actuation of a shutter button (release button 12, figure 5, column 6, lines 29-53); storing the captured image in a buffer memory (buffer, column 3, lines 3-23);

displaying the captured image in a processing section over a period of time, including the generation of a processed image file therefrom (display portion 4, figures 2, 5, column 3, lines 3-24; column 6, lines 29-67);

storing the processed image file in a second memory (memory portion 6, figure 2, column 3, lines 3-23);

selectively enabling a quick view feature in which the image display is automatically turned on in response to actuation of the shutter button for a period of time after the image is captured in order to display the captured image stored in the first buffer memory (Kawamura et al. teaches a LCD display mode in an electronic camera, in which the power supply for the display portion 4 is turned on by half pressing the release button 12 (figures 1A, 2, column 12, lines 3-13);

providing an erase command to the processing section, which erases the captured image prior to completion of the processing (CLEAR button 27 is used to erase the recorded data, figure 5, column 8, lines 10-24).

Kawamura et al. fails to specifically disclose automatically turning off the image display after the period has elapsed. However, Nagano discloses an electronic camera, which includes an electronic view finder 5 that displays image captured by the image sensor 4, and control circuit 26 that causes automatic interval shooting for a number of pictures and at intervals of a given period of time; and to suspend a driving action on the image sensor 4 and to turn off the electronic view finder 5, except when shooting and recording are performed, after commencement of an interval shooting operation with the camera having been set in an interval shooting mode (figure 6, column 8, lines 19-28). Therefore, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the device in Kawamura et al. by the teaching of Nagano in order to automatically turn off the display of a camera after a period of time. This reduces power consumption of the camera.

Regarding claim 15, Kawamura et al. discloses wherein the captured image is erased by terminating the processing and deleting the partially processed image file from the second memory (Kawamura et al discloses the CLEAR button 27 is used to erase the recorded data, figure 5, column 6, line 54 – column 7, line 33; column 8, lines 10-20; and Kawamura et al. discloses that if the CLEAR button 27 is pressed while the release button 12 is pressed (i.e., not fully pressed, the photographed image data are not recorded in the memory portion 6, the image processing is not completed), the image data or the pen put image data is deleted, i.e., the image

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data file is deleted before the processed image file is recording in memory portion 6; figures 2, 5, column 8, lines 10-25).

Regarding claims 16, 18, Kawamura et al. discloses wherein the processing section erases the captured image prior to completion of the processing (Kawamura et al. discloses that if the CLEAR button 27 is pressed while the release button 12 is pressed (i.e., not fully depressed, the photograph image data is not recorded in the memory portion 6, the image processing is not completed), the image data or the pen put image data is deleted, i.e., the image data file is deleted before the processed image file is recording in memory portion 6, figures 2, 5, column 8, lines 10-25).

Allowable Subject Matter

5. Claims 9, 17 are allowed.

The following is a statement of reasons for the indication of allowable subject matter:

Regarding claim 9, the prior art of the record fails to show or fairly suggest an electronic still camera for capturing and displaying images, said camera comprising:

wherein the captured image stored in first memory is subsampled and stored in the first memory prior to the electronic image display being powered up.

Claim 17 is allowed for the reasons given in claim 9.

Conclusion

6. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to LUONG T. NGUYEN whose telephone number is (571) 272-7315. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30AM - 5:00PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, DAVID L. OMETZ can be reached on (571) 272-7593. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.

LTN
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/LUONG T NGUYEN/
Examiner, Art Unit 2622